

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 EUR-25 AF-10 ACDA-19 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SCEM-02 EB-11

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /185 W

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R 190923Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9266

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 12981

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, EG, IS

SUBJECT: MARCOS RESTATES GOP SUPPORT FOR ARABS IN MIDDLE
EAST CONFLICT

REF: MANILA 12653

1. ON NOVEMBER 18, PRESIDENT MARCOS ISSUED A STATE-
MENT ONCE MORE AFFIRMING GOP SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED
NATIONS RESOLUTION 242 OF NOVEMBER 22, 1967. MARCOS
REFERRED TO GOP STATEMENTS OF OCTOBER 21, 1973 (FIRST
PUBLISHED IN MANILA PRESS ON NOVEMBER 11) AND NOVEMBER 8,
1973, AND RESTATED THEIR PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS, MAKING
MORE EXPLICIT THAN BEFORE REFERENCES TO THE PALESTINE
PROBLEM.

2. HE DESIGNATED THE PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF HIS POLICY
AS CALLING FOR:

"A. CONDEMNATION OF FORCIBLE ISRAELI OCCUPATION
OF ARAB LANDS WHICH IS TANTAMOUNT TO AN ACT OF
AGGRESSION;

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B. WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM ALL OCCUPIED

ARAB TERRITORIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242, AND
C. RESTORATION OF THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE
OF PALESTINE."

3. MARCOS SPOKE OF "THE REDEFINITION OF PHILIPPINE POLICY
ON THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION" AS A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE
"FUNDAMENTAL REORIENTATION" OF PHILIPPINE FOREIGN POLICY,
THE OTHER ASPECT OF WHICH WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLO-
MATIC RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HE WARNED THAT
"THE ISRAELI FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS WOULD LEAD TO A FURTHER RECONSIDERATION OF
PHILIPPINE-ISRAELI RELATIONS."

4. THE PRESIDENT'S NOVEMBER 18 STATEMENT CARRIES GOP
POSITION ON ISRAEL TWO STEPS CLOSER TO ARABS. THE
NOVEMBER 8 STATEMENT ON PALESTINE WAS OBSCURE, REFERRING
TO "PRIMORDIAL RIGHTS" OF PALESTINE PEOPLE, WHEREAS
NOVEMBER 18 STATEMENT CALLS FOR RESTORATION OF RIGHTS OF
PALESTINIANS. THE NOVEMBER 18 STATEMENT, MOREOVER,
SPECIFICALLY DEFINES GOP POSITION AS PART OF RE-
OREINTATION AND RE-DEFINITION OF FOREIGN POLICY WHEREAS
EARLIER STATEMENT HAD ALLEGED THAT GOP POSITION REPRESENTED
SIMPLY A CONTINUATION OF PREVIOUSLY STATED
NEUTRALITY ON MIDDLE EAST. SHARPENING OF GOP
POSITION AND SHIFT TO SOMEWHAT MORE EXPLICIT PRO-ARAB
POLICY UNDOUBTEDLY RELATED TO GOP FUEL AND ENERGY PROBLEM
AND FURTHER SHIFTS PRESUMABLY COULD OCCUR SHOULD GOP
CONSIDER THEM TACTICALLY DESIRABLE. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR
INFORMED EMBASSY NOVEMBER 19 THAT HE REGARDED STATEMENTS
SO FAR AS NO MORE THAN THAT THE UN ITSELF HAD ALREADY
RESOLVED AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER OR WHAT EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES THEMSELVES HAVE SAID BUT HE WAS CONCERNED
THAT ARABS MIGHT WISH TO PUSH GOP INTO BREAKING RELATIONS
WITH ISRAEL. GOP MIGHT DISCOVER, HE SAID, THAT GIVING
ARABS A FINGER USUALLY LEADS TO LOSING A HAND. SO FAR
WE SEE NO SIGN OF THIS BUT GOP IS UNDER EXTREME PRESSURES
ON ENERGY ISSUE.
SULLIVAN

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